

# REA

- RAY. *n. f.* [*raie*, *rayon*, Fr. *radius*, Lat.]
1. A beam of light.  
These eyes that roll in vain  
To find thy piercing ray, and find no dawn.  
The least light, or part of light, which may be stop alone,  
or do or suffer any thing alone, which the rest of the light  
doth not or suffers not, I call a ray of light.  
2. Any lustre corporeal or intellectual.  
The air sharpen'd his visual ray.  
3. [*Raye*, Fr. *raie*, Lat.] A fish.  
4. [*Lolium*, Lat.] An herb.  
To RAY. *v. a.* [*raye*, Fr. from the noun.] To streak; to  
mark in long lines. An old word.  
Beside a bubbling fountain low the lay,  
Which she increased with her bleeding heart,  
And the clean waves with purple gore did ray. *Fa. Qu.*  
His horse is rai'd with the yellows.  
Was ever man so beaten? was ever men so rai'd? was  
ever man so weary?  
RAY, for array.  
RAZE. *n. f.* [*rayz*, a root, Spanish.] A root of ginger. This  
is commonly written *race*, but less properly.  
I have a gammon of bacon and two razes of ginger to be  
delivered.  
To RAZE. *v. a.* [*razer*, Fr. *rafus*, Lat.] See RASE.  
1. To overthrow; to ruin; to subvert.  
Will you suffer a temple, how poorly built soever, but yet  
a temple of your deity, to be razed.  
He yolketh your rebellious necks,  
Razeth your cities, and subverts your towns.  
It grieved the tyrant, that so base a town should so long  
hold out, so that he would threaten to raze it.  
Shed christian blood, and populous cities raze;  
Because they're taught to use some diff'rent phrase.  
We touch'd with joy  
The royal hand that raz'd unhappy Troy.  
The place would be razed to the ground, and its founda-  
tions frown with fall.  
2. To efface.  
Fatal this marriage; cancelling your fame,  
Razing the characters of your renown.  
Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow,  
Raze out the written troubles of the brain.  
He in derision sets  
Upon their tongues a various spirit, to raze  
Quite out their native language; and instead,  
To sow a jangling noise of words.  
3. To extirpate.  
I'll find a day to massacre them all,  
And raze their faction and their family.  
RAZOR. *n. f.* [*razor*, Lat.] A knife with a thick blade and  
fine edge used in shaving.  
Zeal, except order'd aright, useth the razor with such ea-  
gerness, that the life of religion is thereby hazarded.  
These words are razors to my wounded heart.  
Those thy boist'rous locks, not by the sword  
Of noble warrior, so to stain his honour,  
But by the barber's razor best subdu'd.  
All our lords are by his wealth outv'd,  
Whose razor on my callow beard was try'd.  
Razor makers generally clap a small bar of Venice steel  
between two small bars of Flemish steel, and weld them to-  
gether, to strengthen the back of the razor.  
RAZORABLE. *adj.* [from razor.] Fit to be shaved. Not in use.  
New-born chins be rough and razorable.  
RAZORFISH. *n. f.*  
The sheath or razorfish resembleth in length and bigness a  
man's finger.  
RAZURE. *n. f.* [*rasure*, Fr. *rasura*, Latin.] Act of crasing.  
Oh! your desert speaks loud;  
It well deserves with characters of brafs  
A fortified residence, 'gainst the tooth of time  
And razure of oblivion.  
RE. Is an inseparable particle used by the Latins, and from them  
borrowed by us to denote iteration or backward action:  
as, *return*, to come back; to *revive*, to live again; *reper-*  
*cussion*, the act of driving back.  
REACCESS. *n. f.* [*re* and *access*.] Visit renewed.  
Let pass the quailing and withering of all things by the  
recels, and their reviving by the *reaccess* of the sun.  
To REACH. *v. a.* ancient preterite *raecht*. [*raecan*, Saxon.]  
1. To touch with the hand extended.  
What are riches, empire, pow'r,  
But larger means to gratify the will;  
The steps by which we climb to rise and reach  
Our wish, and that obtained, down with a scaffolding  
Of scepters, crowns and thrones: they've serv'd their end,  
And there like lumber to be left and scorn'd.  
2. To arrive at; to attain any thing distant; to strike from a  
distance.  
Round the tree  
They longing stood, but could not reach.  
O patron pow'r, thy present aid afford,  
That I may reach the beast.

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- The coast so long desir'd  
Thy troops shall reach, but having reach'd, repent.  
What remains beyond this, we have no more a positive no-  
tion of, than a mariner has of the depth of the sea; where,  
having let down his sounding-line, he reaches no bottom.  
It must fall perhaps before this letter reaches your hands.  
3. To fetch from some place distant, and give.  
He reach'd me a full cup.  
4. To bring forward from a distant place.  
Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach  
hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side.  
5. To hold out; to stretch forth.  
These kinds of goodness are so nearly united to the things  
which desire them, that we scarcely perceive the appetite to  
str in reaching forth her hand towards them.  
When thou fittest among many, reach not thine hand out  
first.  
6. To attain; to gain; to obtain.  
The best accounts of the appearances of nature, which hu-  
man penetration can reach, comes short of its reality.  
7. To transfer.  
Through such hands  
The knowledge of the gods is reach'd to man.  
8. To penetrate to.  
Whatever alterations are made in the body, if they reach  
not the mind, there is no perception.  
9. To be adequate to.  
The law reached the intention of the promoters, and this  
act fixed the natural price of money.  
If these examples of grown men reach not the case of chil-  
dren, let them examine.  
10. To extend to.  
Thy desire leads to no excess that reaches blame.  
Her imprecations reach not to the tomb,  
They shut not out society in death.  
11. To extend; to spread abroad.  
Trees reach'd too far their pamper'd boughs.  
To REACH. *v. n.*  
1. To be extended.  
We hold that the power which the church hath lawfully  
to make laws doth extend unto sundry things of ecclesiastical  
jurisdiction, and such other matters whereto their opinion is,  
that the church's authority and power doth not reach.  
The new world reaches quite cross the torrid zone in one  
tropick to the other.  
When men pursue their thoughts of space, they are apt to  
stop at the confines of body, as if space were there at an end  
too, and reached no farther.  
If I do not ask any thing improper, let me be buried by  
Theodosius; my vow reaches no farther than the grave.  
The influence of the stars reaches to many events, which  
are not in the power of reason.  
2. To be extended far.  
Great men have reaching hands.  
3. To penetrate.  
He hath delivered them into your hand, and ye have slain  
them in a rage, that reaches up into heaven.  
We reach forward into futurity, and bring up to our thoughts  
objects hid in the remotest depths of time.  
4. To make efforts to attain.  
Could a sailor always supply new line, and find the plum-  
met sink without stopping, he would be in the posture of the  
mind, reaching after a positive idea of infinity.  
5. To take in the hand.  
Left he reach of the tree of life, and eat.  
REACH. *n. f.* [from the verb.]  
1. Act of reaching or bringing by extension of the hand.  
2. Power of reaching or taking in the hand.  
There may be in a man's reach a book containing pictures  
and discourses, capable to delight and instruct him, which yet  
he may never have the will to open.  
3. Power of attainment or management.  
In actions, within the reach of power in him, a man seems  
as free as it is possible for freedom to make him.  
4. Power; limit of faculties.  
Our fight may be considered as a more diffusive kind of  
touch, that brings into our reach some of the most remote  
parts of the universe.  
Be sure yourself and your own reach to know,  
How far your genius, taste and learning go.  
5. Contrivance; artful scheme; deep thought.  
Drawn by others, who had deeper reaches than themselves  
to matters which they least intended.  
Some, under types, have affected obscurity to amuse and  
make themselves admired for profound reaches.  
6. A fetch; an artifice to attain some distant advantage.  
The duke of Parma had particular reaches and ends of his  
own underhand, to cross the design.  
7. Tendency to distant consequences.  
Strain not my speech  
To grosser issues, nor to larger reach,  
Than to suspicion.

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8. Extent.  
The confines met of empyrean heav'n,  
And of this world: and, on the left hand, hell  
With long reach interpos'd.  
To REACT. *v. a.* [*re* and *act*.] To return the impulse or  
impression.  
The lungs being the chief instrument of sanguification,  
and acting strongly upon the chyle to bring it to an animal  
fluid, must be reacted upon as strongly.  
Cut off your hand, and you may do  
With t'other hand the work of two;  
Because the foul her power contracts,  
And on the brother limb reacts.  
REACTION. *n. f.* [*reaction*, Fr. from *react*.] The recipro-  
cation of any impulse or force impressed, made by the body  
on which such impression is made: action and reaction are  
equal.  
Do not great bodies conferre their heat the longest, their  
parts heating one another; and may not great, dense and  
fixed bodies, when heated beyond a certain degree, emit  
light so copiously, as, by the emission and reaction of its  
pores, to grow still hotter till it comes to a certain period of  
heat, such as is that of the sun?  
Alimentary substances, of a mild nature, act with small  
force upon the solids, and as the action and reaction are equal,  
the smallest degree of force in the solids digests them.  
READ. *v. n.* [*raed*, Saxon; *raed*, Dutch.]  
1. Counsel.  
The man is blest that hath not lent  
To wicked read his ear.  
2. Saying; saw. This word is in both senses obsolete.  
This read is rife that oftentime  
Great cumburs fall unsoft,  
In humble dales is footing fast,  
The trade is not so tickle.  
To READ. *v. a.* pret. *read*, part. pass. *read*. [*raes*, Saxon.]  
1. To peruse any thing written.  
I have seen her take forth paper, write upon't, read it,  
and afterwards seal it.  
The passage you must have read, though since slept out of  
your memory.  
If we have not leisure to read over the book itself regularly,  
then by the titles of chapters we may be directed to peruse  
several sections.  
2. To discover by characters or marks.  
An armed corse did lye,  
In whose dead face he read great unanimity.  
3. To learn by observation.  
Those about her  
From her shall read the perfect ways of honour.  
4. To know fully.  
O most delicate fiend!  
Who is't can read a woman?  
To READ. *v. n.*  
1. To perform the act of perusing writing.  
It shall be with him, and he shall read therein, that he may  
learn to fear the Lord.  
2. To be studious in books.  
'Tis sure that Fleury reads.  
3. To know by reading.  
I have read of an eastern king, who put a judge to death  
for an iniquitous sentence.  
READ. *particp. adj.* [from *read*; the verb *read* is pronounced  
*read*; the preterite and participle *red*.] Skilful by reading.  
Virgil's shepherds are too well read in the philosophy of  
Epicurus.  
We have a poet among us, of a genius as exalted as his  
statue, and who is very well read in Longinus his treatise  
concerning the sublime.  
READING. *n. f.* [from *read*.]  
1. Study in books; perusal of books.  
Though reading and conversation may furnish us with  
many ideas of men and things, yet it is our own meditation  
must form our judgment.  
2. Less reading than makes felons 'scape,  
Less human genius than God gives an ape,  
Can make a Clobber.  
3. A lecture; a prelection.  
Public recital.  
The Jews always had their weekly readings of the law.  
4. Variation of copies.  
That learned prelate has restored some of the readings of  
the authors with great sagacity.  
READEPTION. *n. f.* [*re* and *adeptus*, Latin.] Recovery; act  
of regaining.  
Will any say, that the redeption of Trevigi was matter of  
scruple?  
READER. *n. f.* [from *read*.]  
1. One that peruses any thing written.

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- As we must take the care that our words and sense be clear,  
so if the obscurity happen through the hearers or readers want  
of understanding, I am not to answer for them.  
2. One studious in books.  
Bafiris' altars and the dire decrees  
Of hard Eusebius, ev'ry reader fees.  
3. One whose office is to read prayers in churches.  
He got into orders, and became a reader in a parish church  
at twenty pounds a year.  
READERSHIP. *n. f.* [from *reader*.] The office of reading  
prayers.  
When they have taken a degree, they get into orders, and  
solicit a readership.  
READILY. *adv.* [from *ready*.] Expeditely; with little hinde-  
rance or delay.  
My tongue obey'd, and readily could name  
Whate'er I saw.  
Those very things, which are declined as impossible, are  
readily practicable in a case of extreme necessity.  
I readily grant, that one truth cannot contradict another.  
Every one sometime or other dreams that he is reading  
papers, in which case the invention prompts so readily, that  
the mind is imposed upon.  
READINESS. *n. f.* [from *ready*.]  
1. Expediteness; promptitude.  
He would not forget the readiness of their king, in aiding  
him when the duke of Bretagne failed him.  
He opens himself to the man of business with reluctance,  
but offers himself to the visits of a friend with facility and all  
the meeting readiness of desire.  
2. The state of being ready or fit for any thing.  
Have you an army ready?  
—The centurions and their charges already in the enter-  
tainment to be on foot at an hour's warning.  
—I am joyful to hear of their readiness.  
They remained near a month, that they might be in readi-  
ness to attend the motion of the army.  
3. Facility; freedom from hinderance or obstruction.  
Nature has provided for the readiness and easiness of  
speech.  
4. State of being willing or prepared.  
A pious and well-disposed mind, attended with a readiness  
to obey the known will of God, is the surest means to en-  
lighten the understanding to a belief of christianity.  
Their conviction grew so strong, that they embraced the  
same truths, and laid down their lives, or were always in a  
readiness to do it, rather than depart from them.  
READMISSION. *n. f.* [*re* and *admission*.] The act of admit-  
ting again.  
In an exhausted receiver, animals, that seem as they were  
dead, revive upon the readmission of fresh air.  
To READMIT. *v. a.* [*re* and *admit*.] To let in again.  
These evils I deserve,  
Yet despair not of his final pardon,  
Whose ear is ever open, and his eye  
Gracious to readmit the suppliant.  
After twenty minutes I readmitted the air.  
To READORN. *v. a.* [*re* and *adorn*.] To decorate again;  
to deck a-new.  
The streams now change their languid blue,  
Regain their glory, and their fame renew,  
With scarlet honours readorn the tide.  
READY. *adj.* [*raed*, Saxon; *raed*, Swedish; *habe*, nimble,  
Saxon.]  
1. Prompt; not delayed.  
These commodities yield the readiest money of any in this  
kingdom, because they never fail of a price abroad.  
He overlook'd his hind; their pay was just  
And ready: for he scorn'd to go on trust.  
2. Fit for a purpose; not to seek.  
All things are ready, if our minds be so.  
—Perish the man whose mind is backward now!  
Make you ready your stiff bats and clubs;  
Rome and her rats are at the point of battle.  
One hand the sword, and one the pen employs,  
And in my lap the ready paper lies.  
The sacred priests with ready knives bereave  
The beasts of life, and in full bowls receive  
The streaming blood.  
3. Prepared; accommodated to any design, so as that there can  
be no delay.  
Trouble and anguish shall prevail against him, as a king  
ready to the battle.  
Death ready stands to interpose his dart.  
The word which I have giv'n, I'll not revoke;  
If he be brave, he's ready for the stroke.  
The imagination is always restless, and the will, reason  
being laid aside, is ready for every extravagant project.  
4. Willing; eager.  
Men, when their actions succeed not as they would, are  
always ready to impute the blame thereof unto the heavens, so  
as to excuse their own follies.  
5. Being